

*Subject*

13 March 1953

MEMORANDUM FOR: Director of Central Intelligence

SUBJECT : Congressional Letters

1. It was our former practice, when applicants who had been originally sponsored by members of the Congress entered on duty here, to have the Director send a letter to the Member informing him that his constituent had entered on duty.

2. Early in General Smith's regime, this practice on the part of the Director was discontinued on the basis that such a letter might give undue indication of political influence in securing the job, and the Director discontinued signing them. I continued, however, to send the letters over my signature as a routine closing out of the case from my office.

3. Would you please inform me as to whether you would like to sign such letters (two of which are attached for your approval) or whether you feel this should continue to be a routine matter for me to handle.

[Redacted Signature Box]

WALTER L. PFORZHEIMER  
Legislative Counsel

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2 Attachments

*Discussed this on 14 March with Mr. Wolf, DP/A, who felt that DCI should not sign these letters. We therefore did not forward the memo to DCI.*

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